

Applic. No. 10/803,853

Amdt. dated March 16, 2005

Reply to Office action of December 16, 2004

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-15 and 18-20 remain in the application. Claims 11, 14, 15, 18, and 20 have been amended. Claims 16 and 17 have been cancelled.

In the second paragraph on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claim 11 has been rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

More specifically, the Examiner has stated that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "said cylindrical" in line 3. Claim 11 has been amended so as to be properly dependent on claim 10. Therefore, the rejection of claim 11 is believed to have been overcome.

It is accordingly believed that the claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. Should the Examiner find any further objectionable items, counsel would appreciate a telephone call during which the matter may be resolved. The above-noted changes to the claims are provided solely for cosmetic or clarificatory reasons. The changes are not provided for overcoming the prior art nor

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for any reason related to the statutory requirements for a patent.

In the fifth paragraph on page 2 of the Office action, claims 14-15, 17, and 19-20 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Whitwell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,771,889) (hereinafter "Whitwell") under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

It is appreciatively noted from page 2 of the Office action that claims 16 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 14 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 16 and intervening claim 15. Therefore claim 14 is allowable. Since claim 14 is allowable, dependent claim 19 is believed to be allowable as well.

Allowable claim 18 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 14 and intervening claim 17. Therefore, claim 18 is allowable. Claims 15 and 20 have been made dependent on claim 18. Accordingly, claims 15 and 20 are allowable as well.

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It is appreciatively noted from page 2 of the Office action that claims 1-10 and 12-13 are allowed.

It is appreciatively noted from page 2 of the Office action that claim 11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112. As noted above, claim 11 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112. Therefore, claim 11 is allowable as well.

Since only allowable claims remain, the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited herewith.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

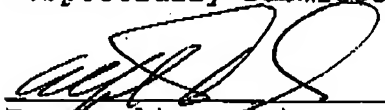
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Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner & Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicant(s)

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AKD:cgm

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